

Some new Solanaceæ from Guatemala.

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Mr. John Donnell Smith submitted to me a bundle of Solanaceous plants from his recent Guatemalan collections. Among them I find the following species which seem worthy of characterization, although in the present confused state of our knowledge concerning this perplexing group absolute certainty seems unattainable. Without any desire of possibly multiplying synonymy these species are put on record as follows:

Solanum Donnell-Smithii n. sp. — Said to be a vine, more or less rough with stellate hairs: prickles stout and subulate or recurved, yellowish, especially stout on the stem, usually more slender on the midrib and principal veins, copious or scanty: leaves rather large and membranaceous, oblong or ovate, sinuate-toothed or lobed, or even entire, 7 to 15 cm. long, with equally 4 to 6-rayed hairs below, and central division much elongated in the otherwise shorter-rayed hairs above: the simple loose few-flowered racemes or cymes soon lateral: calyx deeply 5-cleft, with stout often bulbous-dilated prickles and mostly long-acuminate lobes: corolla 2.5 cm. or more in diameter, whitish or light blue(?), deeply parted into lance-linear lobes, which are thickly stellate-pubescent without: anthers linear-lanceolate: the smooth globose berries becoming 1.5 to 2 cm. or more in diameter, turning red(?). — Escuintla, Depart. Escuintla, alt. 1100 ft., March 1890 (J. D. S. 2268); Concepcion, Depart. Escuintla, alt. 1200 ft., April 1890 (J. D. S. 2261); San Juan Mixtan, Depart. Escuintla, alt. 500 ft., April 1890 (J. D. S. 2262).

Brachistus Escuintlensis n. sp. — Glabrous throughout or minutely puberulent: leaves large and thin, ovate (often broadly so), acute or acuminate, usually oblique at base and more or less tapering into a petiole, entire or with a slightly wavy margin, very unequal in size, the largest becoming 20 to 23 cm. long and 12 to 13 cm. broad: flowers on pedicels of various lengths in umbellate axillary clusters along the main stem or on leafy branches: the short and broadly campanulate calyx with an entire margin (rarely a few almost indistinguishable teeth): corolla about 12 mm. long with 5 erect lobes 4 or 5 mm. long: berry globose, 8 to 9 mm. in diameter. — Escuintla, Depart. Escuintla, alt. 1100 ft., March 1890 (J. D. S. 2267).

Bassovia Donnell-Smithii n. sp.—Said to be 24 dm. high, more or less softly pubescent or even hirsute, the upper parts of the stem and inflorescence glandular: leaves ample and thin, petioled, ovate to ovate-lanceolate, acuminate, from almost entire to sharply sinuate-toothed or lobed, 7.5 to 17.5 cm. long, minutely pubescent above, more conspicuously pubescent below, the midrib and principal veins usually prominently bordered by dense whitish pubescence: flowers on long pedicels in rather dense axillary umbellate clusters: the glandular calyx with small but evident teeth: corolla with ovate obtuse or acute glandular lobes 5 or 6 mm. long: anthers whitish-scarious along the lines of dehiscence: "fruit red".—Gautemala, Depart. Guatemala, alt. 5000 ft., February 1890 (F. D. S. 2270); Dueñas, Depart. Zacatepequez, alt. 5000 ft., April 1890 (F. D. S. 2258).

BASSOVIA MACROPHYLLA. — Pansamalá, Depart. Alta Verapaz, alt. 3800 ft., April 1889 (*Türckheim* 1438). This plant was at first considered to be a variety of the new *B. Mexicana* B. L. Robinson, of Pringle's distribution of 1890, and is so reported in Mr. Smith's "Enumeration", Part II. However, Mr. Robinson has since kindly looked into the matter, and the conclusion seems evident that it is the South American *Witheringia macrophylla*, a plant of puzzling synonymy. Bentham and Hooker refer it to *Bassovia*, and Miers to *Brachistus*. The disposition made of it by Bentham and Hooker seems to be the most natural one.

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New Grasses.

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The discovery of a second species of *Orcuttia* makes it necessary to somewhat modify the generic characters. They should now read as follows:

[Tribe FESTUCEÆ, sub-tribe *Seslerieæ*.] **Orcuttia**.—Panicke somewhat spicate, with short, simple, alternate, sessile spikelets, somewhat distant below, and crowded toward the summit: spikelets many flowered, compressed: empty and flowering glumes much alike, with many prominent straight nerves, strongly toothed or lobed at the apex: palea equaling

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